



MassDEP

Drinking Water Program

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Drinking Water Program Updates

2019-12-03

This week's program director email has these topics of interest:

1. FEMA Funding
2. Drinking Water Supply Protection Grant
3. Collaborating with Land Trusts for Drinking Water Supply Protection Grants
4. Adapting to Extreme Weather Events
5. SRF and Capacity Building Webinar
6. Sludge Handling Webinar
7. A New Trainings Web Page
8. Training Calendar
9. Spam

Find Funding that is Right for Your Utility

With Unprecedented FEMA Funding for Mitigation,
There Has Never Been a Better Time to Apply.



For this year, FEMA's Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) program is funded at the unprecedented level of \$250M. Does your water utility have a mitigation project in mind, but has not pursued it because you lack funding? Is your mitigation project cost effective and is your utility included in the local hazard mitigation plan? If so, [learn about PDM](#) and submit your FEMA [PDM application](#) by January 30, 2020.

[Click Here for More Information](#)

FY 2020 Drinking Water Supply Protection Grant

The Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs' Division of Conservation Services is seeking applications for the FY 2020 Drinking Water Supply Protection Grant Program. The DWSP Grant (BD-20-1042-ENV-ENV01-45989) has been posted to COMMBUYS and can be found [here](#). This BID is open to municipalities, water districts, and non-profit public water systems authorized by the Commonwealth to provide drinking water to the public. The deadline for submitting a grant application is **Tuesday, January 21, 2020 at 3:00 pm**.

A pre-bid conference will be held at **10:00 am on Thursday, December 5, 2019** at the Massachusetts Fisheries and Wildlife Field Headquarters at 1 Rabbit Hill Road (off North Drive) Westborough, MA 01581. .

Public Water Systems: If you partner with local land trusts, watershed organizations or other groups for drinking water supply protection, please make them aware of this grant opportunity.

The contact for this grant program is:

Nathaniel Thomas
Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs
100 Cambridge Street – Suite 900
Boston, MA 02114
617-626-1187
Nathaniel.Thomas1@mass.gov

Collaborating with Land Trusts for Drinking Water Supply Protection Grants

The Drinking Water Supply Protection (DWSP) Grant Program provides grants to municipalities, water districts, and non-profit public water systems for the acquisition of land and conservation restrictions in MassDEP-approved drinking water supply protection areas for public wells and reservoirs and land in estimated protection areas of identified and planned future water supplies. The grant award maximum is \$300,000 and has a 50% reimbursement rate. Eligible expenses include surveys, acquisition costs, recording fees, and land management plans. During the last two grant rounds, all eleven applicants to the DWSP Grant Program were awarded grants, totaling over \$1.8M in funding.

Partnering with your local land trust is useful as it leverages their conservation expertise and acquisition resources. They are accustomed to short turnaround times and may be able to help public water suppliers access community preservation funds.

- In 2018, Franklin Land Trust and the South Deerfield Water Supply District worked together to acquire 53 acres of Zone B land and 13 acres of Zone A land on the Conway and Whately Glen Reservoirs watershed. The landowner was in foreclosure and had to sell before the water

district was able to acquire the property. Franklin Land Trust pre-acquired the property, sold it to the district for \$259,900, and the district's costs were halved by their \$129,950 DWSP grant.

- In 2019, Kestrel Land Trust and the Southampton Water Commission collaborated on a \$216,162 DWSP grant that protected 15 acres of forest land and critical water supply. The acquisition was paid for in part by Community Preservation funds, which requires a conservation restriction. Kestrel Land Trust helped write the application and holds the conservation restriction for the water commission.

Protecting land next to public water supplies is essential for preserving water quality. Though land acquisition may seem arduous, collaborating with partners that have complementary expertise can ease the process. For more information on the Massachusetts land trust community, visit the Mass Land Trust Coalition website at www.massland.org.

Adapting to Extreme Weather Events

U.S. EPA held a webinar on November 13, 2019 entitled, "Adapting to Extreme Weather Events." The webinar provided drinking water, wastewater and stormwater utilities with practical tools, training, and technical assistance needed to increase resilience to extreme weather events. Lindsey Hallock, Director of Public and Environmental Policy for Cape Fear Public Utility Authority, shared how she has implemented adaptation strategies at her utility.

[Access the Webinar Recording](#)

Sludge Handling and Disposal Techniques Webinar

December 13, 2019, 1:30-2:30 pm ET

Sponsored by RCAP

Overview of sludge handling and disposal techniques for operators, technical assistance providers, and regulatory personnel to familiarize them with the various technologies and processes employed in the handling and disposal of wastewater treatment sludge. Various techniques and methods of sludge handling will be discussed and evaluated to help control sludge handling costs and process efficiency.

[Register](#)

SRF and Capacity Building Webinar

Please join us next week for EPA's Drinking Water State Revolving Fund and Capacity Building in Action Webinar!

Protecting Drinking Water Sources with the DWSRF Set-Asides

Thursday, December 12, 2019 2:00 – 3:00 pm ET

During this webinar, you'll learn about recent changes in the DWSRF 15% Local Assistance set-aside eligibilities and how Colorado and Nebraska are using their DWSRF set-asides to protect drinking water sources through preventative measures. You'll learn how Colorado is using their set-aside for a variety of source water protection programs including addressing wildfire threats and recovery. You'll also hear from Nebraska on how they are using their set-asides to develop planning documents for groundwater source protection that help them access larger funding pools such as nonpoint source grants and Natural Resource Conservation Service programs.

Registration link: <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/3773611171114127619>

Please note CEUs are not available for this webinar.

A New Trainings Web Page

A new Drinking Water Program trainings web page has been created on MassDEP's web site at <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/drinking-water-training>. The presentations from DWP's training on November 13th, held in collaboration with the Barnstable County Water Utilities Association, are posted there.

Power Point presentations posted from that training include:

- Overview of the Drinking Water Program
- Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS)
- Lead & Copper Rule and America's Water Infrastructure Act - Upcoming Changes
- WIIN Grant: Lead Testing in School and Child Care Facilities
- DEP Regional Perspective/Priorities.

Future presentations will be posted on the new web page as trainings are held.

Training Calendar

When you need training please look at the training calendar located at:

mass.gov/eea/agencies/massdep/water/drinking/drinking-water-training-class-schedules.html for upcoming trainings.

If you need a refresher on recently given trainings, you can review several training videos located at:

youtube.com/playlist?list=PLJn2AKOcYr7lutGJB-UfDKtQPF_o_249m

Or click here:



Spam

Please be reminded that official emails from MassDEP will never come from a Hotmail or any other personal account. If you receive an email of this nature, the email is spam. Do not click on the links, and delete it immediately. To safeguard yourself only click open emails that have XXXXX.XXXX@mass.gov.

MassDEP is sending this important drinking water information to all PWS responsible persons who are listed on the state database. If you are no longer the correct responsible person for the PWS please reply with the correct contact information. MassDEP needs one responsible contact person from each PWS.

Operators, consultants, and others who are interested in Drinking Water Program Updates are encouraged to request to be subscribed to this email list. You may also request to be unsubscribed by replying to this email.

This MassDEP Program Director technical assistance email is funded by the Safe Drinking Water Act Assessment (Section 70) Program. The Assessment is paid by all consumers of public water in Massachusetts and is collected by public water systems. For more information about the Assessment Program, go to mass.gov/eea/agencies/massdep/news/advisory-committees/safe-drinking-water-act-assessment-advisory-committee.html.
